



July 6, 2015

CEU Opportunities

If you are short on CEUs for this year, here is an opportunity to earn 5.5 WIC CEUs. Listed below are the linked articles that have been approved for WIC CEUs.

1. [Marijuana Use During Pregnancy and Lactation](#). 1 WIC CEU
2. [Examining a Developmental Approach to Childhood Obesity: The Fetal and Early Childhood Years: Workshop in Brief](#). 1 WIC CEU
3. [The Effectiveness of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program](#). 1 WIC CEU
4. [Where Do Americans Usually Shop for Food and How Do They Travel To Get There? Initial Findings From the National Household Food Acquisition and Purchase Survey](#). 2 WIC CEU
5. [WIC Works: Addressing the Nutrition and Health Needs of Low-Income Families for 40 Years](#). .5 WIC CEU

New Soy Formula

The Western States Contract Alliance (WSCA) has found a successful bid to supply soy formula for a rebate. Gerber Good Start will be the new soy formula starting October 1, 2015. This food item is not set-up in M-SPIRIT yet. For that reason, do not issue soy formula checks for October until further notice. We expect to have it set-up by next Monday.

Nutrition and Breastfeeding Education Plans

A [Nutrition Education Plan](#) and a [Breastfeeding Education Plan](#) need to be completed and submitted to the State Office by September 1, 2015. Use the online forms linked above, or complete them on the forms provided at the beginning of June.

Plans shall be:

- Completed with local agency WIC Director, Breastfeeding Coordinator, and/or Clinic Coordinator guidance in conjunction with staff input.
- Meet the needs of local staff and participants.
- Completed to include selection of at least one focus area and may include activities already being done and are considered ongoing. This year, we ask that you use your local agency data (breastfeeding, BMI and smoking cessation) when completing your activity plan for FFY 2016. **At least one activity must be aimed at improving one of the metric areas.**
- Submitted to the State Nutrition Coordinator annually by date specified. See contact information below. You may email or post mail your plans.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lacy Little at lalittle@mt.gov or (406) 444-5923.

Civil Rights Training

There is only a few days left before The [Civil Rights Training](#) **MUST** be completed by **ALL** local agency staff members. The deadline is July 10, 2015 (This Friday). This training is completed online via PowerPoint. Once completed, sign the [attached form](#). Submit via [email](#), fax (406-444-0239) or mail to the State WIC office.

New CVB in October

Beginning October 1, 2015, the FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BENEFIT will be increased by \$1 for women. This means that there is a new FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BENEFIT food item, effective 10/1/2015. Food Prescriptions that are created using the default food package, and are dated between today and 9/30/2015, will throw a message stating that the FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BENEFIT (1152) will be removed. This is okay! Click OK to the message and the system will add the correct item, FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BENEFIT (5/1/2015) (1126).

When creating food prescriptions dated 10/1/2015 or later, the system will warn users that the item "FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BENEFIT (5/1/2015) (1126)" is expired and will be removed. Click OK to the message and the system will add the correct item, FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BENEFIT (1152). Also, a new report has been added to help you identify participants needing food prescription updates. The report, called "Food Prescriptions with Expiring Items", is located on Spirit Utilities under the "Temporary" report menu. If you have questions or need assistance, please call the WIC Help Desk (1-800-433-4298, opt. 1).

Reminder: New Income Eligibility Guidelines

Please remember to review the [new income eligibility guidelines](#) that started on July 1, 2015.

Scavenger Hunt for CEU's

To get Local Agency Staff more acquainted with resources available, a scavenger hunt has begun. Attached is an [approved abbreviation list worksheet](#). If completed and returned to the State WIC Office, .5 CEU's will be given. There was an Approved Abbreviation List created. You must find the list to complete the worksheet. Submit the completed worksheet to Lacy Little via [email](#), fax (406-444-0239), or postal mail.

July Outreach Idea

This month there are many opportunities in every community in Montana to mingle with potential participants in the outdoor activities that will take place throughout the month – fairs, arts and crafts shows, farmer's markets and every kind of family activities that will be held. Make it a fun way to spread the WIC program!

USDA prohibits discrimination in the administration of its programs

Help us keep the distribution list updated - send e-mail address changes, additions and deletions to the WIC State Office at 1-800-433-4298.

